United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Pacific Region Field Crop Review

The Pacific Region Includes the States of CA, HI and NV

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

MARCH 1, 2015 PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

California's March intentions estimates were based on a survey of more than 2,500 California farmers. The survey was conducted March 1-15, but referred to farmers' intentions on **March 1**. Therefore, the impact of weather or market conditions since that date is not reflected in this report.

COTTON: On March 1, California farmers were intending to plant 45,000 acres of Upland cotton in 2015, down 21 percent from the acreage seeded in 2014. In addition, growers were expecting to seed 110,000 acres of American Pima cotton in 2015, down 29 percent from last year. **Nationally**, Upland area is expected to total 9.4 million acres, down 13 percent from 2014. American Pima area is expected to total 150,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2014.

CORN: **Californi**a farmers were expecting to plant 430,000 acres of corn for all purposes in 2015, a 17 percent decrease from last year. **Nevada** farmers were expected to plant 4,000 acres of all-purpose corn in 2015, unchanged from last year. **U.S.** corn growers intend to plant 89.2 million acres, down 2 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third consecutive year of an acreage decline and would be the lowest planted acreage in the United States since 2010.

OATS: On March 1, farmers in **California** had planted or were expecting to plant 120,000 acres of oats, up 9 percent from 2014. **Nationally**, area seeded to oats for the 2015 crop year is expected to total 2.93 million acres, up 8 percent from 2014.

WHEAT: In **California,** acreage seeded to Winter wheat is forecast at 430,000 acres, 7 percent below last year. Another 60,000 acres have been seeded to Durum wheat, 71 percent above the amount planted in 2014. In **Nevada**, acreage seeded to Winter wheat is forecast at 10,000 acres, 33 percent below 2014. Acreage for Spring wheat is forecasted at 5,000 acres, down 17 percent from 2014. At the **U.S.** level, the 2015 winter wheat planted area is estimated at 40.8 million acres, is down 4 percent from last year but up less than 1 percent from the previous estimate. The intended Durum planted area for 2015 is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 18 percent from the previous year. The 2015 forecasted plantings for Spring wheat is 13.0 acres, down slightly from last year.

RICE: **California** farmers intended to seed rice on 408,000 acres, 6 percent below the acreage seeded in 2014. The expressed intentions were to seed 375,000 acres of medium grain varieties, 5 percent below last year. The long grain rice acreage forecast is 2,000 acres, down 50 percent from last season. The short grain rice planted acreage forecast is 31,000 acres, down 11 percent from last season. Short grain and all rice forecasts include the intended plantings of sweet rice. **Nationally**, area planted to rice in 2015 is expected to total 2.92 million acres, down 1 percent from 2014. The expectation of lower prices for 2015 is contributing to the expected decline in rice acres compared with last year. While long grain acres are expected to be down only slightly from 2014, medium and short grain acres are expected to be down 1 and 11 percent respectively. California, the largest medium and short grain producing State, continues to experience a severe drought and is expected to decrease medium and short grain acres in 2015. Medium grain acres in Arkansas and Louisiana are expected to increase from 2014 which is helping to offset the expected acreage decline in California.

BARLEY: On March 1, **California** farmers had planted or intended to plant 70,000 acres of barley down 12 percent from the previous year. Record low acreage is expected in California. **U.S.** producers intend to seed 3.26 million acres of barley for the 2015 crop year, up 10 percent from the previous year. If realized, this will be the fourth smallest seeded area on record.

SUGARBEETS: **California** producers have planted or intend to plant 25,000 acres of sugarbeets, up 3 percent from the acreage seeded in 2014. **Nationally**, area planted to sugarbeets for the 2015 crop year is estimated at 1.18 million acres, up 2 percent from last year. Intended plantings are above the previous year in seven of the ten estimating States.

SUNFLOWERS: **California** farmers intend to plant 44,000 acres of sunflowers, down 6 percent from the acreage seeded in 2014. **Nationally**, area planted to sunflowers for the 2015 crop year is estimated at 1.79 million acres, up 14 percent from last year. Despite the increase, planted area for the Nation will be the fourth lowest since 1976, if realized.

DRY EDIBLE BEANS: On March 1, seeding of dry edible beans was planned for 50,000 acres in **California**, up 4 percent from last year. **Nationally**, growers intend to plant 1.74 million acres in 2015, up 1 percent from last year.

ALL HAY: **California** producers intend to harvest hay from 1.23 million acres, down 11 percent from last year. In **Nevada**, 340,000 acres was seeded to all types of hay in 2015, down 21 percent from last year. **U.S.** producers intend to harvest 57.1 million acres of all hay in 2015, up slightly from 2014.

SPRING POTATOES: **California** farmers were expecting to plant 30,000 acres of spring potatoes in 2015, up 20 percent from 2014. **Nationally,** planted area of spring potatoes is estimated at 73,000 acres, down 1 percent from the previous year.

SWEET POTATOES: **California** farmers were expecting to plant 18,000 acres of sweet potatoes in 2015, down 5 percent from last year. **Nationally,** planted area of sweet potatoes is estimated at 137,700 acres, unchanged from the previous year.

PACIFIC REGION FIELD CROPS

Crop	2013	2014	Indicated 2015	2015 / 2014
	1,000 Acres			Percent
Wheat, Winter 1/				
California	620	460	430	93
Nevada	23	15	10	67
U.S.	43,230	42,399	40,751	96
Wheat, Durum 2/				
California 1/	70	35	60	171
U.S.	1,400	1,398	1,647	118
Wheat, Spring 2/				
Nevada	8	6	5	83
U.S.	11,606	13,025	12,969	100
Oats 1/ 2/				
California	150	110	120	109
U.S.	2,980	2,723	2,931	108
Barley 1/ 2/				
California	95	80	70	88
U.S.	3,528	2,975	3,258	110
Corn, All 2/				
California	600	520	430	83
Nevada	7	4	4	100
U.S.	95,365	90,597	89,199	98
Rice 2/				
California:				
All	567	434	408	94
Long	6	4	2	50
Medium	515	395	375	95
Short 3/	46	35	31	89
U.S.:				
All	2,490	2,939	2,915	99
Long	1,781	2,207	2,197	100
Medium	662	696	686	99
Short	47	36	32	89
Cotton, Upland 2/				
California	93.0	57.0	45.0	79
U.S.	10,206.0	10,845.0	9,399.0	87
Cotton, Amer.-Pima 2/				
California	187.0	155.0	110.0	71
U.S.	201.0	192.0	150.0	78
Beans, Dry Edible 2/ 4/				
California	50.0	48.0	50.0	104
U.S.	1,357.7	1,718.9	1,742.9	101
Sugarbeets 5/				
California 6/	24.4	24.3	25.0	103
U.S. 7/	1,198.0	1,161.6	1,182.1	102
Sunflower, All 2/				
California	58.5	47.0	44.0	94
U.S.	1,575.5	1,560.8	1,786.0	114
Hay, All 2/ 8/				
California	1,370	1,375	1,230	89
Nevada	345	430	340	79
U.S.	57,897	57,092	57,093	100
Spring Potatoes 2/				
California	27.0	25.0	30.0	120
U.S.	75.9	73.8	73.0	99
Sweet Potatoes 2/				
California	19.0	19.0	18.0	95
U.S.	115.7	137.3	137.7	100

1/ Includes area planted in preceding fall.
2/ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from farmers.
3/ Includes sweet rice.
4/ Excludes beans grown for garden seed.
5/ Intended plantings in 2015 as indicated by reports from processors.
6/ Relates to year of intended harvest for fall planted beets in central California and to year of planting for overwintered beets in central and southern California.
7/ Relates to year of intended harvest in all states, except California.
8/ Area harvested.

U.S. PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The February Prices Received Index (Agricultural Production), at 100, based on 2011=100, increased 3 points (3.1 percent) from January. At 85, the February Crop Production Index is up 2 points (2.4 percent). At 115, the Livestock Production Index decreased 5 points (4.2 percent). Producers received higher prices for eggs, tomatoes, oranges, and hay but lower prices for broilers, cattle, hogs, and lettuce. In addition to prices, the indexes are impacted by the five-year average monthly mix of commodities producers market. Increased monthly movement of cattle, milk, broilers, and hogs offset the decreased marketing of soybeans, corn, and wheat.

The Prices Received Index is down 7 points (6.5 percent) from February 2014. The Food Commodities Index, at 108, decreased 1 point (0.9 percent) from the previous month and 9 points (7.7 percent) from February 2014.

The February Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW), at 109 (2011=100), is unchanged from January 2015 and February 2014. Higher prices in February for herbicides, LP gas, Insecticides, and potash & phosphates offset lower prices for feeder cattle, complete feeds, feeder pigs, and diesel.

Crop Production: The February index, at 85, increased 2.4 percent from January but is 11 percent below February 2014. Increased marketing of fruits & tree nuts and vegetables more than offset lower movement of oilseeds, feed grains, food grains, and other crops.

Feed grain: The February index, at 64, is unchanged from last month but is 12 percent below a year ago. The corn price, at $3.79 per bushel, is down 2 cents from last month and 56 cents below February 2014. At $7.86 per cwt, sorghum grain is up 46 cents from January and 21 cents above February a year earlier.

Food grain: At 84, the index for February is 5.6 percent lower than the previous month and is 13 percent below a year earlier. The February price for all wheat, at $5.89 per bushel, is down 25 cents from January and 61 cents below February 2014.

Oilseed: At 79, the index for February is down 3.7 percent from January and 24 percent lower than February 2014. The soybean price, at $9.92 per bushel, decreased 38 cents from January and is $3.28 below February a year earlier.

Fruit and tree nut: The February index, at 124, decreased 1.6 percent from January and is 8.1 percent lower than a year earlier. Price decreases during February for lemons and apples more than offset the price increase for oranges.

Vegetable and melon: At 87, the index for February is down 22 percent from the previous month and 9.4 percent below February 2014. Prices were lower for lettuce and broccoli but higher for tomatoes.

Other crop: The February index, at 80, is down 1.2 percent from the previous month and 13 percent below February 2014. The all hay price, at $155 per ton, is up $3.00 from January but is $12.00 lower than February 2014. At 57.4 cents per pound, the price for upland cotton is down 1.2 cents from January and 22.8 cents below February 2014.

Livestock Production: The index for February, at 115, is 4.2 percent below the previous month and down 5.0 percent from February a year earlier. Compared with a year ago, prices are lower for milk, hogs, and broilers but higher for cattle, calves, market eggs, and turkeys.

Meat animal: At 125, the February index is down 4.6 percent from the previous month but 5.0 percent higher than a year earlier. At $50.40 per cwt, the February hog price is down $7.00 from January and $15.10 lower than a year earlier. The February beef cattle price of $159 per cwt is down $5.00 from the previous month but is $15.00 higher than February 2014.

Dairy product: The index for February, at 84, is down 4.5 percent from the previous month and 32 percent lower than February a year earlier. The February all milk price of $16.80 per cwt is down 80 cents from January and $8.10 from February 2014.

Poultry and egg: At 125, the February index is down 1.6 percent from January but is 2.5 percent above 2014. The February market egg price, at $1.41 per dozen, is up 34.0 cents from January and 18.0 cents above February 2014. The February broiler price, at 54.0 cents per pound, is down 6.0 cents from January and 1.0 cent below a year earlier. At 66.9 cents per pound, the February turkey price is up 0.7 cents from the previous month and 0.5 cents from 2014.

INDEX NUMBER OF PRICES RECEIVED AND PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, UNITED STATES

Index	2011 Base		
	Feb 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
Agricultural Production	107	97	100
Crop Production	95	83	85
Grains and oilseed	86	74	73
Feed grain	73	64	64
Food grain	97	89	84
Oilseed	104	82	79
Fruit and nut	135	126	124
Commercial vegetable	96	111	87
Other crop	92	81	80
Livestock Production	121	120	115
Meat animal	119	131	125
Cattle	127	148	142
Hog	98	86	76
Dairy	124	88	84
Poultry and egg	122	127	125
Food Commodity	117	109	108

CALIFORNIA FIELD CROP PRICES – FEBRUARY 2015

February prices received by California farmers decreased from January for fall potatoes. There was insufficient data to publish a price for barley, spring potatoes and cottonseed. Data for wheat and upland cotton lint were not published to avoid possible disclosure of operations.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS a/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		February 2014	January 2015	February 2015	February 2014	January 2015	February 2015
		Dollars					
Corn 3/	Tons	---	---	---	155.36	136.07	135.36
Wheat 3/	Tons	243.00	232.33	2/	216.67	204.67	196.33
Oats 3/	Tons	---	---	---	234.38	188.75	192.50
Barley 3/	Tons	2/	2/	3/	247.50	200.83	217.08
Sorghum Grain 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	7.65	7.40	7.86
Rice 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	15.50	12.50	11.80
Dry Edible Beans 3/	Cwt.	2/	58.10	69.20	39.00	32.90	32.40
All Potatoes	Cwt.	10.00	9.60	9.50	9.22	9.07	8.91
Spring	Cwt.	3/	3/	3/	---	---	---
Fall	Cwt.	10.00	9.60	9.50	---	---	---
Upland Cotton Lint 3/	Lbs	2/	2/	2/	0.802	0.586	0.574
Cottonseed	Tons	3/	305.00	3/	226.00	191.00	196.00

1/ The estimated prices shown in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers. They are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.
2/ Not published to avoid possible disclosure of operations.
3/ Insufficient data to establish a price.

POTATO STOCKS

California fall potato stocks were estimated at 700,000 cwt as of April 1, 2015, 13 percent less than last year's holdings. Stocks represented 17 percent of the 2014 fall production.

The 13 major potato States held 130 million cwt of potatoes in storage April 1, 2015, up 9 percent from April 2014. Potatoes in storage accounted for 32 percent of the 2014 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point higher than last year.

Potato disappearance, at 272 million cwt, was up 1 percent from April 1, 2014. Season-to-date shrink and loss, at 22.1 million cwt, was 1 percent higher than last year.

Processors in the 9 major States used 144 million cwt of potatoes for the season, up 3 percent from April 2014.

FALL POTATO PRODUCTION AND APRIL 1 STOCKS 1/

State	Crop of 2013			Crop of 2014		
	Production	Total Stocks Apr. 1, 2014	Percent of Production	Production	Total Stocks Apr. 1, 2015	Percent of Production
	1,000 Cwt.		Percent	1,000 Cwt.		Percent
California	3,504	800	23	4,038	700	17
Colorado	20,304	7,000	34	23,735	8,800	37
Idaho	131,131	47,000	36	135,920	50,000	37
Maine	15,660	4,400	28	15,150	5,500	36
Michigan	15,840	2,100	13	15,725	1,650	10
Minnesota	17,325	6,000	35	16,800	5,000	30
Montana	3,441	1,800	52	3,616	2,000	55
Nebraska	8,418	2,200	26	6,438	1,700	26
New York	4,959	650	13	4,424	500	11
North Dakota	22,620	6,500	29	24,255	7,400	31
Oregon	21,582	7,600	35	22,562	8,200	36
Washington	96,000	26,000	27	101,475	29,000	29
Wisconsin	26,040	7,000	27	27,090	9,100	34
13-State Total	386,824	119,050	31	401,228	129,550	32
Klamath Basin 2/	(NA)	1,850	(X)	(NA)	1,500	(X)

(NA) Not available
(X) Not applicable
1/ Stocks include processor holdings and most seed to plant following year's crop. Seed usage for all seasons in 2013 totaled 25.6 million cwt.
2/ Includes potato stocks in California and Klamath County, Oregon. Included in the 13 State total.

GRAIN STOCKS

On March 1, 2015 **California** wheat stocks in all positions totaled 243,360 tons, 20 percent below a year earlier. Off-farm corn stocks on March 1 were 263,256 tons, up 27 percent from 2014. Oats totaled 1,744 tons in California off-farm storage facilities as of March 1. On March 1, barley stocks totaled 225,648 tons in California off-farm storage facilities. Off-farm sorghum stocks number was withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. **U.S.** wheat stocks in all positions were 6 percent above a year earlier as of March 1, 2015. Barley stocks were down 3 percent, but oat stocks were up 69 percent from 2014. U.S. corn stocks in all positions totaled 217 million tons, and sorghum grain stocks totaled 3.32 million tons.

GRAIN STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS
(Includes stocks under support and government owned grain.)

Grain and Position	March 1, 2014	Dec. 1, 2014	March 1, 2015
	Tons		
ALL WHEAT			
California			
On-Farm	36,000	18,000	6,000
Off-Farm 2/	269,190	239,400	237,360
Total	305,190	257,400	243,360
U.S. Total	31,708,950	45,737,700	33,731,940
BARLEY			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	1/	16,344	225,648
U.S. Total	2,917,536	3,785,232	2,829,576
OATS			
California			
Off Farm 2/ 3/	1,456	2,000	1,744
U.S. Total	561,968	995,312	949,760
CORN			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	207,032	288,316	263,256
U.S. Total	196,227,444	313,675,992	216,857,368
SORGHUM GRAIN			
California			
Off-Farm 2/ 3/	1/	1/	1/
U.S. Total	4,920,552	6,414,408	3,319,232

1/ Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.
2/ Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.
3/ California on-farm stocks and total stocks are included in United States totals.

OFF-FARM RICE STOCKS

California rough rice stocks in all positions totaled 31.8 million cwt. on March 1, 2015. This was 14 percent above the stocks on hand a year earlier. **Nationally,** rough rice in all positions on March 1 totaled 112.5 million cwt., up 26 percent from the total on March 1, 2014.

Stocks of milled rice stored in **California** mills and warehouses on March 1, 2015 totaled 2.93 million cwt. This was 8 percent above the 2.72 million cwt. stored a year earlier. Whole kernels accounted for 36 percent of the total milled rice in storage. **Nationally,** milled rice stocks in all positions totaled 5.87 million cwt., slightly higher than a year ago. Milled rice stocks were comprised of 3.15 million cwt. of whole kernel rice and 2.72 million cwt. of second heads, screenings, and brewers rice.

CALIFORNIA ROUGH RICE STOCKS

Month	Season		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
	1,000 Cwt.		
December 1	38,607	41,414	39,416
March 1	26,631	27,817	31,815
June 1	---	15,999	---
August 1	8,182	10,997	---
October 1	2,926	7,538	---

ROUGH AND MILLED RICE STOCKS IN ALL POSITIONS

Type of Rice	CALIFORNIA		UNITED STATES	
	March 1		March 1	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	1,000 Cwt.			
ROUGH RICE				
Long Grain	1/	1/	56,125	71,243
Medium Grain	25,113	29,788	30,481	39,505
Short Grain	1/	1/	2,348	1,720
TOTAL ROUGH RICE	27,817	31,815	88,954	112,468
MILLED RICE				
Whole Kernels (Head Rice)				
Long Grain	1/	1/	2,379	1,952
Medium Grain .	1,490	1,002	1,584	1,139
Short Grain	1/	1/	48	59
Total	1,541	1,066	4,011	3,150
Broken Kernels				
Second Heads	1/	1/	1,064	1,663
Screenings 2/	---	---	118	115
Brewers	1/	1/	651	941
Total	1,175	1,862	1,833	2,719
TOTAL MILLED RICE	2,716	2,928	5,844	5,869

1/ Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.
2/ Screenings included with second heads in California.

HAY PRICES

Commodity	Unit	Alfalfa hay			Other Hay		
		February 2014	January 2015	February 2015	February 2014	January 2015	February 2015
		Dollars					
Arizona	Tons	205.00	215.00	200.00	205.00	210.00	195.00
California	Tons	225.00	200.00	190.00	187.00	160.00	170.00
Idaho	Tons	200.00	190.00	180.00	170.00	165.00	165.00
Nevada	Tons	213.00	230.00	225.00	187.00	200.00	200.00
Oregon	Tons	210.00	225.00	220.00	160.00	190.00	200.00
Utah	Tons	180.00	180.00	180.00	145.00	145.00	145.00
UNITED STATES	Tons	190.00	174.00	172.00	138.00	118.00	127.00